FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

VOLUME #26 / ISSUE #5

INSIDE OUT

Spring '99 heralds lingerie and sleepwear that looks too good to be hidden. At the recent Intimate Apparel Salon held in New York, it soon became obvious what women want and manufacturers are providing — styles that could double as RTW for an "at home" occasion or a night on the town. After seasons of RTW designers sending out little slips and lingerie-inspired looks down the runway, intimate apparel is finally capitalizing on its own versatility.

Key Spring '99 trends emerged, including a pastel palette comprising pink, peach, blues (from aqua to baby blue), and buttercup yellow to accompany lavender for soft romanticism. Taupe is proving to be an important color, offering an elegant sophistication that vies for attention with white and black. Feminine floral prints also appear, either as all-over patterns or engineered designs that incorporate sumptuous pastel hues,

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HELEN SANCHEZ

THOU SWELL, THOU WITTY, THOU GRAND

The past few seasons, accessories have taken a back seat to RTW, but all that is about to change for Spring '99. While clothing sales are for the most part sluggish, accessories are enjoying a renewed interest among consumers eager for something extra to spice up their wardrobes. Designers are injecting a bit of novelty and wit into their products and this "whimsy" factor, coupled with feminine colors and untraditional materials, adds up to a strong season. The following are Fashion International's selection of Spring accessories sure to do well at retail.

At JOAN & DAVID, there are perfect polished calf or crocodile moccasins and ballerina slippers with ankle lacing in soft nappa, lizard and lustered calf for day, and slides touched with crystal and jet for evening. Newest are the ballerinas set on carved clog bottoms, for a fresh take on an old favorite.

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softening and adding femininity to the ubiquitous pinstripe (best in pale blue and white). One of the many lingerie designs that look good enough to wear solo, or at least to be revealed with pride, is the popular camisole, which can replace a blouse under a jacket or peek from beneath a top. There's an Oriental influence, with mandarin collars and kimonos, while at-home looks continue in strength. One of the most important trends in underpinnings continues to be the sleek, seamless bra and panties. The bra is often molded and gently padded to enhance the figure.

LEIGH BANTIVOGLIO made her debut for Fall '98, and with this Spring/Summer '99 collection proves that she is a force to be reckoned with. Her feminine yet contemporary designs (all made in the U.S.) feature imported French lace and a host of mouth-watering colors and print choices. A romantic small print white or yellow floral silk chiffon group includes a bias-cut teddy, long robe, and short or long chemise with cowl neck. Another group, in rigid Calais lace, offers a selection of black, blue and pink prints, with the pink rose print in greatest demand. Here are styles designed to be RTW, including a pretty camisole and a short or a sleeveless shirt, both with delicate antique buttons. A triangle bra, underwire demi bra, tanga and short slip, as well as a camisole cinched at the waist, come in a selection of stretch border lace in lavender check, sunshine, black or turquoise nylon, polyamide and Lycra. A pinstriped stretch corset silhouette group (with no boning), in pink or green pastel striping, includes a bustier and bustier dress; while a silk charmeuse group, with lace trim and adorned with handmade roses, transports us to Hollywood of the '40s in dramatic hues, such as emerald with pink, black with pink, taupe with pink, and gold with black, in styles ranging from short or long V-neck chemise to short and long robes. (230 W 41st St., NYC. 10018. Contact: 212-398-4772).

HELEN SANCHEZ is another rising star to watch in the intimate apparel forum. This talented young designer launches her own collection for Spring '99, demonstrating a flair for elegance and originality that is bound to set her apart. In addition to producing a fine collection in 100% silk charmeuse, this company donates $1 of each item sold to Breast Cancer research (noted on the hang tags). Sophistication is what you get in a "Criss-Cross" group, in ivory, slate, pink, blue or taupe, where styles range from classic robe to short chemise or gown, detailed with sheer chiffon hemlines and inset trim. Also featured in this group is a sleepwear trio comprising sleepshirt, PJ and camisole sets, all with similar inset trim. There's a retro mood in another group, where ivory, slate, pink or blue silk charmeuse is trimmed with dyed to match antique lace. She then takes us to the Far East with an engineered print, in sky blue, peach, or taupe, that is cut on the bias panel by panel to create an exotic and ultra chic effect. (200 W 15th St., NYC 10011. Contact: 212-691-7374).

FERNANDO SANCHEZ doesn't disappoint this season, delivering that consistent sense of style, luxury and craftsmanship that has become the signature of his loungewear and at-home collection. A new addition for Spring '99 is a pristine and crisp, 100% white cotton batiste group that incorpo-

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A FALL/WINTER CRYSTAL BALL

WHAT WILL WE SEE ON THE RUNWAYS AND IN THE SHOWROOMS THIS SEASON? FOUR TEXTILE INDUSTRY LEADERS DO SOME CRYSTAL GAZING.

JOANNA PROVENZALE OF WESTWOOD

- "BRIGHT" NAVY
- SOFT COLORS: BLUE GREENS, TEALS, PLUMS
- SHINE WITHIN THE GRAY GROUP FOR DAY AND EVENING. GLINTS OF LIGHT LEND SHIMMER: A BLACK WOOL SKIRT WITH METALLIC CELLOPHANE YARN WORKED THROUGH IT.
- VARIATIONS OF THE EVER POPULAR RED: THE USE OF BLACK AND RED TOGETHER; "WINTER" A BLUE TONED RED
- BROWNISH REDS (RAISIN TONED) THAT WORK INTO THE BROWN/SPICY FALL STORY
- BRIGHT PRIMARY COLORS FOR ACTIVEWEAR PATTERNS
- TWILL & HERRINGBONE ARE DOMINANT
- "RAJ MEETS RENAISSANCE:" JACQUARDS, SPICY BROWNS & BLUE GREENS
- POLKA DOTS
- MONOCHROMATIC SMUDGY PRINTS
- ANIMAL PRINTS THAT LOOK NEW DONE IN GRAY
- PRINTS THAT LOOK LIKE JACQUARD
- DELICATE LACE PRINTS
- PRINTS DERIVING INSPIRATION FROM THINGS OF THE EARTH, FOLIAGE INSPIRED COLOR, AND LITTLE FLOWER PRINTS
- EXOTIC PRINTS — PAISLEY WITHIN CHINOISERIE
- MEN'S SUITING: A VERY MASCULINE FEELING PROMOTED THROUGH THE USE OF HERRINGBONE, TWEED AND FLANNEL
- WOMEN'S SUITINGS: ACHIEVED THROUGH THE MIXING OF YARNS
- CORDUROY MAKES A COMEBACK
- DOUBLE-FACED FABRICS
- 3-D DIMENSIONAL FABRICS SHOW THE USE OF VOLUMINOUS YARNS USED TOGETHER.
- SEQUINS AND PLEATING TREATMENTS/DETAILS ATOP VERY SHEER FABRICS SUCH AS CRINKLE GAUZE; GEORGETTE, OFTEN WITH METALLIC GLINTS
- CHENILLE AND BOUCLE/ LACY WOOLS ARE POPULAR. FABRICS APPEAR LARGE, SHAGGY AND PLUSH, BUT IN ACTUALITY ARE VERY LIGHT
- FUR CONTINUES FOR TRIM AND LININGS
- TRENDS FOR THE MILLENNIUM: AN EMPHASIS ON FORM AND SCULPTURE; HI-TECH MEETS NATURE

JACKIE TUTELMAN OF RATTI, USA

- DEEP TONES, RUBIES, DEEP BLUE, RUST
- METALLICS- PIGMENT PAINTS, CRACKLE EFFECTS TO MAKE A FABRIC APPEAR "OLDER LOOKING," AS THOUGH IT WERE FROM YEARS GONE BY, BUT WITH A MODERN FEEL
- SURFACE/TEXTURE: MOORISH, VENETIAN, BAROQUE INFLUENCE; BROKEN PAISLEYS
- HUGE PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINTS OF FLOWERS AND BUTTERFLIES REMINISCENT OF PAST COUTURE DESIGNS
- PLEATS IN THE SPIRIT OF ISSEY MIYAKE & FORTUNY
- PRINTED KNITWEAR AND KNITS SHOT THROUGH WITH LUREX
- CUT AND SEW KNITS ENJOYING POPULARITY

DR. WERNER BERLINGER OF HOFTERHECHT STICKEREIEN

- COSMIC GRAY, OLIVE, MIDNIGHT BLUE, RUBY (GARNET), MOSS GREEN

FRANCOIS DAMIDE OF SOLSTISS & PERRIN & FILS

- PASTELS IN TONED DOWN SHADES, NAVY, GREEN,
- MULTICOLORED AND JEWEL TONED FABRICS
- TAFFETA IS VERY IMPORTANT
- HAND BEADED LACE
- YARN DYED FABRICS
- FLORALS
- GEOMETRICS

"THOU SWELL, THOU. . ." continued from page 1

Vegetable dyed molded wicker handbags reminiscent of the '50s add a note of fun to Spring clothes, in neutral shades of khaki, brass, espresso and wild cherry. Jewelry designer LOIS HILL, renowned for her deft way with silver has expanded this season into tableware and casual straw totes. The totes are chic enough for town, especially the natural raffia, with brown braided leather handles, and the black version lined in red gingham checks. BENETTON taps into the casual "street" influence: khaki canvas zip-top bag with webbing strap, black rubber soled beige canvas slip-ons, and army gray platform sandals. SISLEY keeps the casual mood going with a small flap over bag and East/West mini tote in a beige slubbed fabric. The doctor is in at DR. SCHOLL with a whole new range of styles combining fashion with comfort. These include "Dr. Charm," a Mary Jane in pearlized pastels; and "Dr. Karma, "a Velcro closed sandal with rubber outsole and contoured footbed, in fun shades of silver, gold and bronze. XOXO's fashion savvy customers will opt for their total accessory offerings. In legwear, the standouts are denim blue anklets with white florals, tie-dyed effects, pastel pointelles, and pretty floral/butterfly motif anklets. Enamel butterfly pins, hair accessories, and short pearl necklaces are still the trend in jewelry; while small bags look newest in the handbag category. Best styles include the pink denim mini tote with appliqued organdy butterflies and pastel floral printed zip top bag. COOL STUFF' shows beaded stretch bracelets in various sizes, shapes and colors, while hair jewelry plays up wire wrapped stones in combs and headpieces. At A. TESTONI, the mood is subtly understated glamour with specially treated leathers and fabrics in neutral shades. Typical are the printed lizard "Samoacalf" slides with curvy Sabrina heels, and the ballerina flats in python snake or eggshell "glitterkid." Handbags range from totes and hobos to structured models in (exclusive) microfiber/leather combinations, lizard, or polished calf. For women on the go, Testoni offers a shaped black microfiber hobo with leather handles and accents, and a unique "press bag" that folds into itself and, when opened, becomes a capacious zippered weekend tote.

Key directions at HOT SOX include the short anklets, trouser socks and peds, in pretty pales from the "Lingerie" range; the Asian/Indian sari and kilim border patterned short anklets; and henna, floral printed net tights from their "Cross Cultural" range. Hot Sox has also expanded into girls' socks, with delightfully whimsical patterns and a full range of styles. RALPH LAUREN likes shorter trouser socks for Spring exemplified by his calla lily style in lilac. Also noteworthy are his casual solid trouser socks, with contrast heel and toe, and nautical striped short cotton anklets. Minimalist dressing calls for L'EGGS Sheer Energy pantyhose with special trademarked micro-toning action, in newly designed vivid blue

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1999 MARKET DATES

provide by

FASHION INTERNATIONAL

For more information call:(212) 289-0420

SUMMER/TRANSITION

NEW YORK	NOV. 8-19, 1999
ATLANTA	JAN. 28-FEB. 1
CHICAGO	JAN. 22-26
DALLAS	JAN. 21-25
LOS ANGELES	JAN. 15-19
MIAMI	JAN. 3-6

FALL I

NEW YORK	JAN. 4-15
ATLANTA	APRIL 8-12
CHICAGO	MARCH 26-30
DALLAS	MARCH 18-22
LOS ANGELES	APRIL 9-13
MIAMI	APRIL 16-19

FALL II

NEW YORK	FEB. 8-26
ATLANTA	JUNE 10-14
CHICAGO	JUNE 11-15
DALLAS	JUNE 3-7
LOS ANGELES	JUNE 11-15
MIAMI	JUNE 4-7

SPRING

NEW YORK	SEPT. 13-OCT. 1
ATLANTA	OCT. 21-25
CHICAGO	OCT. 22-26
DALLAS	OCT. 14-18
LOS ANGELES	NOV. 5-9
MIAMI	OCT. 2-5

RESORT

NEW YORK	JUNE 7-18
ATLANTA	AUG. 26-30
CHICAGO	AUG. 27-31
DALLAS	AUG. 19-23
LOS ANGELES	AUG. 13-17
MIAMI	AUG. 6-9

***IMPORTANT - NEW YORK DATE CHANGE - IMPORTANT**

ALL NEW YORK MARKET DATES HAVE MOVED FORWARD.
IN ADDITION, THE HOLIDAY AND SPRING I MARKETS, THAT HAVE OFTEN COMBINED WITH THE FALL II OR RESORT MARKETS, ARE NOW SEPARATE

HOLIDAY – APRIL 5-16 / SPRING 1 – AUGUST 2-13

"THOU SWELL, THOU. . ." continued from page 4

packaging. Shades include the essentials like off-white, nude, and suntan, as well as fashion tones of coffee, very navy, off-black and jet in control top, sheer and regular panty.

Spring's feminine filmy clothing calls for equally delicate coverups, such as large shawls and wraps. ELIZABETH GILLETT's organza scarves come in a contrasting or tonal colored squiggle thread pattern, while ECHO likes a mix of gauze with chiffon accented by beading. ASIAN OPERA offers the ultimate in luxe with 2-ply ombre and solid pashmina shawls in a host of colors. ADRIENNE LANDAU shows oversized silk/metal hand painted and embroidered organza stoles; Edwardian inspired, pale two-toned ostrich feather boas; and a white satin burnout kimono with marabou trim. Landau also does a fabulous silk chiffon oblong scarf with bugle bead trim, and a lovely triple silk georgette cape with satin piping, in white or black. Blurring the categories between scarves and jewelry is COLETTE MALOUF's delicate beaded netting head scarf — wonderful day or night.

Spring's handbag looks encompass every need from frivolous to practical. STUCO has elegant weekend bags in iridescent gray microfiber/natural cowhide combinations with matte silver hardware, in a full range of shapes and sizes. Embellished straw bags are hot and one of the best sources is ISABELLA FIORE who has a range of Italian straw totes with beaded wired flowers, or accented with leather bows. SUMMER TOMPKINS adds beading and embroidery and dragonfly motifs with different appliqués to her urban straw bags. At BETTINA DUNCAN, there are dainty framed bags in beige raffia with pastel embroidered floral sprays. In addition to straws, Duncan shows a satin group in icy pales with delicate dragonfly and leaf/flower embroidery. OTTAVIA's bags, in red or brown, combine cut-out leather with natural raffia or add a scalloped edge to an off-white, bamboo handled, flat calf bucket. SPYR has trendy canvas body bags trimmed with nappa and pretty taffeta bags and shoes. Standouts include the extended sole Mary Jane, with Velcro closure; the cross strapped, raffia sandal on a square toed, layered wood platform; and a cream taffeta mid-heeled bar pump, with pale embroidery on the vamp. ERIC JAVITS does water repellent straw hats with contrast stitching for a shimmering effect, while HELEN KAMINSKI offers bright fedora, boater and cowboy styles. LOLA prefers the whimsy of a Chinese pagoda straw hat with appliquéed red vines and flowers.

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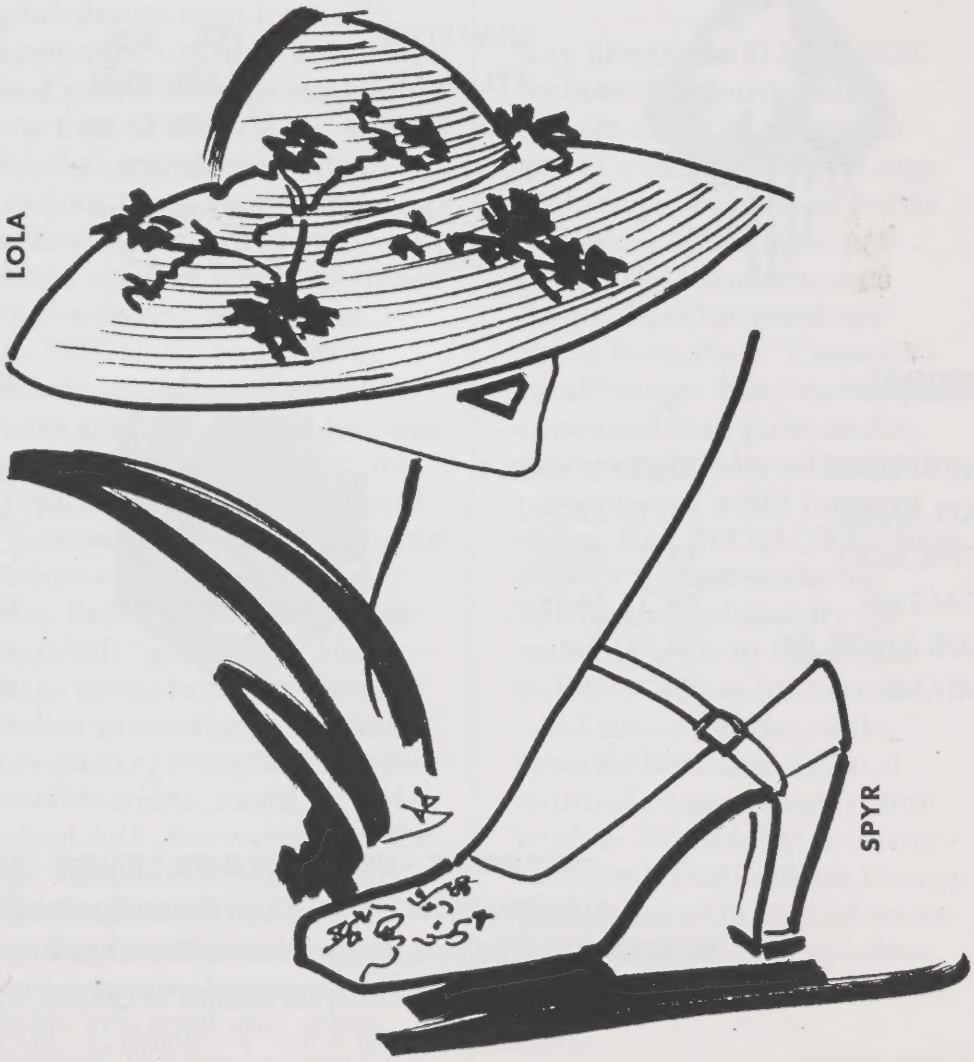

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rates pretty lace inserts on kimonos, long gowns, v-neck sleepshirt, robes, caftans, pj sets, and a delightful spaghetti strap camisole (a definite wear under/wear out item). Pastels play a key role, with a brushed satin-backed group trimmed with lace that offers combinations of mint, pale pink, ice blue and white. This includes two-tone and three-tone kimonos, long tank gown with contrast lace, elastic waist PJ set, short sleepshirt or gown, and zip-front tunic. There's a sumptuous and elegant group, in combinations of peach and cielo, dove gray and off-white, or solid off-white, featuring flowing gowns, kimonos, slip gowns and pajamas with contrast facings, bindings or lace detailing. Finally, we're off to the Casbah in a Moroccan-inspired quilted brushed-back satin with terry duo, where turquoise, tomato, and white team up in exotic hooded zip-front djebella and cap sleeve short robe. (5 W 19th St. 10011. Contact: 212-929-5060)

At UNMENTIONABLES the selection is diverse, with daywear, sleepwear and bodywear in fabrics ranging from silk charmeuse, washer silk, chiffon, and microfiber crepe to silk knit, stretch silk, cotton jersey, jacquard, gauze and lawn. A silk charmeuse group, in blush, black, or white, offers spaghetti strap, tank or V-neck camisoles that combine with tap pant and boxers with pretty lace trim. Pink, blush, buttercup, slate, red, royal and black are offered in another group of basic sleepwear, loungewear and lingerie, that also includes a romantic short poet shirt with elasticized wrists. Sage stripes or ivory solids are the focus of a polyester charmeuse category: Here, the pinstripe definitely makes a stylish statement, especially in the night shirt, pajama, and baby doll set (the latter combining a solid top with pinstriped pants). Also outstanding is a very feminine print group, in pink or white cotton jacquard, with short nightshirt, robe, chemise and baby doll sets. (Gay-Lure Lingerie Co., Ltd., 67 Colville Rd., Toronto, Ontario Canada M6M 2Y2 Contact: 416-244-4747).

Among the many items in the ONGOSSAMER collection is a seamless convertible mesh bra that, according to the company, is the second best-selling bra at Bloomingdale's. It is lightly padded, designed to be worn under the most form-fitting T-shirt, and offered in skin, champagne, black, white, and cocoa. In the same 100% nylon mesh seamless collection we find a sexy bustier-like backless and strapless bra, and a soft cami cup, as well as several bottoms ranging from mesh thong or G-string to shorts. Mesh continues in bodysuits and tanks, as well as T-shirts (sleeveless, short, long sleeve) and a RTW influenced snap-down cardigan in black or white only. Designed for style and practicality, are the tactel slips. Outstanding is a strapless 19" seamless slip, in French nude or black, with a silicone strip at the top to keep it up. Also in this grouping is the molded cup tank slip that eliminates the need for a bra, the tank style slip dress, and the 31" strapless slip. A sexy two-tone selection in black with white embroidery or taupe with tan embroidery includes an underwire bra, a mesh thong, a panty and a garter belt. Pretty and feminine, in white and yellow or black with pink, is the rose embroidery on mesh featured in a contour bra, adjustable strap camisole, skirt and low V-back shirt. (8798 NW 15th St., Miami Fl 33172. Contact: 305-702-1880. NY showroom: 213-8080).

According to the company MARY GREEN, one of the best blends is their silk and cotton group, which includes spaghetti strap camisole, sport brief, thong and bra, offered in pinks, gray and white. Silk ribbing is another popular selection that includes a button-front chemise, and a scoop neck tank with built-up strap and thong. Extremely charming is the silk embroidered georgette group featuring a delightful spaghetti strap camisole that is double-layered: The outer layer is embroidered georgette, while the inner is in matching solid georgette. Also included is a short sleeved blouse that is definitely not designed to be worn under anything, a double layered long chemise, and a petal tap pant — all in beautiful shades of pale blue, pale lilac, white celedon or black. The Asian influence

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steps forward in a long gown with mandarin collar, cut on the bias with cap sleeves and side-slits: Featured in candlelight, silver or black, this silk georgette gown is a clear winner! The Mandarin look appears again in a pajama set from the same group. In mouth-watering hues of watercolor blue, green and lavender, as well as white and black, a stretch georgette (95% silk/5% Spandex) group features the directional boy pant, and the popular short chemise and camisole. (1244 Larkin St., San Francisco, CA 94109 Contact: 415-928-SILK).

CARLTON HALL presents a diverse selection of at-home pieces in 30 different fabrics, and in such seasonal hues as pink, blue, peach, and taupe. Sophisticated prints and the eyelet group are the strength of the collection. The former features novelty fabrics that are inspired by home furnishing materials and incorporate textural interest. The eyelet embroidery group comes in white only and includes wrap and button-front robes, and a short sleeveless wrap. These all coordinate with another collection from the same company, AMANDA RICH. This collection includes coordinated gowns in white, pale pink, and light blue 100% cotton lawn with eyelet trim. Pastel cotton stripes in pink, yellow, or blue come in polyester/cotton blend and look particularly smart in pale blue with white stripes. The styles offered here are button-front tuxedo-like shirts, zip-front caftan, zip-front robe with inverted pleats, long sleeve sleepshirt, and knee or ballet length shawl collar robe with sash. If you're looking for prints — check out the taupe/black or peach/cream microfiber daisy pattern that is very dramatic in robes, kimonos, pajamas, bias-cut gown and sleepshirt. Soft and rich floral prints, in aqua, taupe or maize (with peach or pinks) are featured in textured polyester, and translated into a zip-front robe with Eastern-inspire Mandarin collar, kimono with sash, zip-front caftan, flutter sleeve gown or V-neck pleated-front gown with elastic back. (Carlton Hall/Amanda Rich, 11391 Meadow Glen, Suite C, Houston, Texas. Contact: 281-497-0883).

NOTE: NEXT INTIMATE APPAREL SALON, MARCH 7-9, 1999 AT THE MILLENNIUM B'WAY/ MILLENNIUM CONFERENCE CTR, NYC. CAROL M. BIGMAN, 203-740-2018.

A FANTASY FABRIC

Fantasy, a new ultra-soft leather substitute from Fifield Inc., was the fabric of choice for the winning evening dress at Bobbin World's annual student competition in Atlanta. This new textile boasts not only of a distinctive textured surface and leather-like look and feel, but an ability to withstand the stresses of sewing, gluing, molding, dry cleaning and washing. Extremely versatile, Fantasy is being promoted by Fifield to be used in trim, hats, skirts, belts, personal leathergoods, fashion accessories and jewelry displays. Available in 51 inch widths and 52 yard rolls, the wide color selection will make this fabric even more appealing. For additional information and a *free* swatch, contact: 781-335-7060 (Fax: 781-335-7709).

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